

District II Advisory Board Minutes

November 15, 2004

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The District II Advisory Board meeting was held at 7:00 p.m. at the Rockwell Branch Library at 5939 E. 9th Street North.

Members Present

Daryl Crotts
Sarah Devries
Tim Goodpasture
Matt Hesse
Joe Johnson
David Mollhagen
Phil Ryan
Dane Saksa*
Kaci Tucker*
Marty Weeks

Members Absent

Brian Carduff
Ray Frederick
Larry Frutiger

Staff Present

Doug Kupper, Park & Rec
Bill Longnecker, MAPD
Tim Martz, Park & Rec
Donte Martin, CMO

*Denotes a youth member

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00.

Approval of Minutes and Agenda

The agenda for November 15, 2004 was approved as submitted (8-0).

Public Agenda

1. Scheduled items

No items scheduled

2. Off-agenda items

Tom Swan – stated his support for Visioneering Wichita and Rails to Trails. Swan passed out a handout detailing his support for Visioneering Wichita.

STAFF PRESENTATIONS

3. Community Police Report

No report given.

PLANNING AGENDA

4. ZON 2003-00066

On November 15, 2004, the District Advisory Board (DAB) for Council District II considered a request for zone change to “LC” from “SF-5”

Bill Longnecker, MAPD, described the request and responded to questions. Mr. Longnecker explained that MAPD staff recommends approval of the proposed zone change to “LC” subject to conditions outlined in the MAPD staff report. The applicant has agreed to guarantee one-half of the future paving costs for Ellson if allowed an access point on Ellson. The property will also have two access points onto Central

Gene Rath, agent for the applicant, stated the applicant is requesting this zone change in order to facilitate sale of the property. The applicant is willing to agree to the conditions contained in the staff report.

There were no citizens in attendance requesting to speak to this matter.

Daryl Crotts (Hesse) moved to recommend approval of the proposed zone change subject to the conditions contained in the MAPD staff report. The motion passed (8-0).

Action Taken: Approved the requested zone change subject to conditions contained in the MAPD staff report.

NEW BUSINESS

8. Park & Recreation - Ralph Wulz Riverside Tennis Complex

The District II Advisory Board heard proposals to build and manage an indoor tennis complex at the existing Ralph Wulz Riverside Tennis Facility. The City has agreed to provide \$2.5 million for construction costs with a match of \$2.5 million from the proposing agencies. The City would be the property owner and the selected agency would operate the facility. The year-round recreation center would serve all populations, especially those groups with special needs including at-risk children and individuals with disabilities. An additional goal would be to increase the number of tournaments, professional tennis events and exhibitions played in Wichita. The facility would also be available for high school and college play.

Friends of the Riverside Tennis Association (FRTA) and Genesis Health Clubs each submitted a proposal in response to the City’s RFP process. They emphasized the value of tennis as a life-long sport that teaches a discipline for a better quality of life.

Representatives from FRTA focused on using a community approach with other community agencies, such as USD 259, Youth Alliance, the City, and others working together on tennis programs for children and families. The program would be based on an existing program that currently partners with the YMCA and schools to provide transportation, tennis lessons, and equipment. Their proposal would share the cost of operating and management with the city. Their programs would include tutoring, outreach, curriculum, and exhibitions. Their proposal would share the cost of operating and management with the city. They stated that they have already raised \$2.5 million through pledges; however, the pledges would only be given to a non-profit agency.

Representatives of Genesis Health Clubs stated that their proposal would eliminate the City from paying any future subsidies, such as with the Exploration Place, Art Museum, etc. Examples were given of Genesis' ability to build successful programs, their experienced staff, prior experience in running for profit and non-profit organizations, current programs with the YMCA serving 800 children with free tennis lessons, four hours of court time each day for handicapped adults, and scholarships for low income and disadvantaged persons. Genesis would offer a fitness facility to enhance healthy lifestyle in addition to tennis. No memberships would be required to use the tennis courts but a fee would be charged after the first free visit. Genesis plans to contribute \$2.0 million dollars to the project and will fund any shortfalls through memberships to the fitness center.

The District II Advisory Board Members expressed the following comments and concerns:

- The need for partnerships with community agencies
- This is an important project that would improve Riverside Park and benefit the city
- Need more information on the youth programs, especially hours available, transportation and scheduling
- The project should include programs for youth and area schools
- Need to look closely at the funding for the project to ensure the City does not incur losses
- The two proposals should be blended together and supported by the city.
- What is the proposed health facility's membership fee (aside from the tennis court)
- How much funding does each party have and what is the funding source
- What will be the format for after-school programming

Action Taken: DAB II did not make a formal recommendation but forwarded comments to the City Council for consideration.

BOARD AGENDA

9. District II Parks

Doug Kupper, Park and Recreation, presented information about parkland in Wichita. Kupper explained that there are a total of 4149.05 acres of parkland throughout Wichita. This does not include 2000 acres of right of way and other city owned property that the Park Department maintains. There are 243.60 acres within District II. This total is far less than the average amount of parkland in the other five council districts.

CM Schlapp asked if there are any efforts to acquire land for park uses in District II.

Kupper replied that now is an ideal time to acquire parkland and that he needs the support of the DAB and City Council. Park Dept. is focusing on NE and SE Wichita hoping to locate potential land for small neighborhood parks.

Daryl Crotts suggested utilizing land north of Jabara Airport. **Kupper** replied that this land would be better used as a regional park. There is more of a need for neighborhood parks in District II.

CM Schlapp expressed a need for open spaces instead of complexes. Schlapp asked for volunteers to serve on a subcommittee charged with working with Park Dept. to evaluate parkland in District II.

Daryl Crotts and Tim Goodpasture volunteered to serve on the subcommittee.

Joe Johnson (Hesse) moved to create a two-person subcommittee to work with Park Dept. in evaluating potential parkland in District II. The motion passed (8-0).

Action Taken: Create a two-person subcommittee to work with Park Dept. in evaluating potential parkland in District II.

10. Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled DAB II meeting will be December 6, 2004 at the Rockwell Branch Library.

With no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Guests

John Cyr
John Dorsett
Lynette Dorsett
Lindsey Hagen
Marvin Hanney
Nick Harris
Bill Longnecker
Simon Norman
Monica Nutt
Rick Nutt
Joe Perez
Myron Pushyk

Gene Rath
Carol Skaff
Tom Swan